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Message Text

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53
ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 NSCE-00 PM-03 L-01 SP-02

PRS-01 INR-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 SAJ-01 SSO-00 INRE-00

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---------- 057881
O R 311840Z OCT 74
FM USMISSION NATO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8548
INFO ALL NATO CAPITALS 4601
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 6090

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, UR
SUBJECT: OCTOBER 31 SPC DETENTE DISCUSSIONS: QUESTIONS FOR SOVIET/EAST EUROPEAN EXPERTS

TRANSMITTED BELOW IS A LIST OF QUESTIONS ON EASTERN DETENTE ATTITUDES DEVELOPED BY THE NATO/IS AS A GUIDE TO ASSIST THE SOVIET/EAST EUROPEAN EXPERTS' IN THEIR DISCUSSION, NOVEMBER 5-8, OF TOPICS OF INTEREST TO THE SPC IN ITS CURRENT DELIVERATIONS ON DETENTE. FULL REPORT OF SPC DISCUSSION FOLLOWS SEPTEL.

BEGIN TEXT

A. IS DETENTE SIMPLY A TACTIC ON THE PART OF THE SOVIETS OR IS IT A LONG-TERM STRATEGY? HOW MUCH DOES SOVIET PURSUIT OF DETENTE DEPEND ON PERSONALITIES AND HOW FAR IS IT A POLICY OF THE COLLECTIVE LEADERSHIP? WHAT EFFECT ON SOVIET THINKING DOES THEIR PREOCCUPATION WITH COMMUNIST CHINA PLAY AS REGARDS DETENTE AND WHAT IS THEIR ASSESSMENT OF THE BALANCE OF POWER WITH THE WEST?

B. WHAT IS THE BALANCE SHEET OF DETENTE AS SEEN FROM MOSCOW?
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(SALT, CSCE AND MBFR, SOVIET RELATIONS WITH WESTERN COUNTRIES, EEC/CMEA RELATIONS). WHAT ARE THE DIFFERING PERCEPTIONS OF DETENTE BETWEEN THE SOVIET LEADERS AND THOSE OF EASTERN EUROPE, AS WELL AS THE DIFFERENCE AMONG THE VARIOUS EAST EUROPEANS?

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C. GIVEN THE ANSWERS TO THE ABOVE QUESTIONS, HOW LIKELY IS IT THAT THERE WILL BE A CHANGE OF POLICY IN THE SHORT OR MEDIUM TERM, AND WHAT FORM COULD SUCH A CHANGE TAKE? IN WHAT CIRCUM-STANCES MIGHT THE INTERNAL PRESSURE FOR CHANGE BE INCREASED AND HOW FAR WILL SUCCESS OR FAILURE IN ONE ASPECT OF SOVIET WESTPOLITIK INFLUENCE THE OTHERS? WHAT PRICE CAN THE EAST PAY FOR CONTINUED INFPROVEMENT IN EAST/WEST RELATIONS AND WHAT CAN THEY BE EXPECTED TO BE WILLING TO PAY?

D. HOW FAR CAN THESE COUNTRIES AND IN PARTICULAR THE SU GIVE IN TO WESTERN WISHES ON SECURITY, HUMAN CONTACTS, FREER MOVEMENTS OF IDEAS, ETC. WITHOUT RISK FOR THE SURVIVAL OF THE PRESENT POLITICAL SYSTEM.
END TEXT
MCAULIFFE

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